

ABSTRACT

A computer that can be plugged into a backplane which is coupled to a network. The backplane has a backplane identification that is retrieved by the computer and compared with a stored backplane identification. The stored backplane identification is the ID of the last backplane that was coupled to the computer. If the stored ID does not match the ID from the backplane, the computer transmits a command to the network indicating that the computer has been moved to a new physical location. A server can receive the command and automatically re-configure the network so that a network address and/or telephone number associated with the computer is routed to the backplane. The computer may also transmit a client identification that is used by the server to determine whether the computer is authorized for usage.